RUSLE2
Guidelines for Estimating Soil Erosion with Terraces

If Terraces Already Exist

1. Select a slope length and steepness down to the first terrace, or the terrace interval.
2. Select a contouring row grade from the drop-down choice list for *Contouring*.
3. Select a terrace at the <u>bottom</u> of the slope from the drop-down choice list for *Diversion/terrace, sediment basin*

NOTE: If terraces already exist on the RUSLE2 slope, we need to take credit for remote deposition that occurs in the terrace channel outlet. Therefore, we must place the terrace at the bottom of the RUSLE2 slope as instructed above. If the grade of the outlet channel is sufficiently flat, RUSLE2 gives partial credit for this deposition, and the RUSLE2 erosion rate and sediment delivery values will be reduced.

If Terraces Are Being Planned But Are Not Installed

1. Select a slope length from the point where runoff begins to the point where deposition occurs or to a concentrated flow channel. Since terraces do not yet exist, measure the entire RUSLE2 slope.
2. Select a contouring row grade from the drop-down choice list for *Contouring*.
3. Select a terrace system for the RUSLE2 slope. From the drop-down choice list for *Diversion/terrace, sediment basin*, choose a system of one or more terraces and an appropriate channel grade that best matches the system planned.